

## **Science Amendment**

**September 22, 2006**

**Indiana science licensing requirements differ from the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB)* definition of what constitutes a highly qualified science teacher. Secondary science teachers must meet the licensure requirements for the state and the NCLB highly qualified teacher requirements.**

The following are the highly qualified teacher requirements for secondary school teachers:

### **Secondary Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements for Veteran Teachers:**

Must hold a valid Indiana teaching license appropriate for the school setting, AND COMPLETED ONE of the following FOR EACH CORE ACADEMIC (CAS) subject the teacher teaches:

- Passed the PRAXIS II exam in the CAS; OR
- Passed the National Teacher Exam specialty test in the CAS; OR
- Earned a bachelor's degree or completed 24 college credit hours in the CAS; OR
- Earned a master's degree in the CAS they teach; OR
- Completed the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification in the CAS; OR
- Earned 100 points on the HOUSSE rubric.

### **Highly Qualified Teacher Requirements for New Teachers:**

Must hold a valid Indiana teaching license appropriate for the elementary school setting, AND COMPLETED ONE of the following FOR EACH CORE ACADEMIC SUBJECT (CAS) the teacher teaches:

- Passed the required PRAXIS II licensing exam in the CAS; OR
- Earned a bachelor's degree or completed 24 credit hours in the CAS; OR
- Earned a master's degree in the CAS.

NCLB does not distinguish the science courses. Therefore, for purposes of highly qualified, science teachers must be highly qualified in science, and not in a particular science subject.

To elaborate, science teachers who have passed the PRAXIS II or the National Teacher exam specialty test for any science subject that they are licensed to teach are highly qualified in science globally. Note that teachers can only teach what their license enables them to teach. **Please consult the Assignment Code [www.doe.state.in.us/dps/licensing/assignmentcode/welcome.html](http://www.doe.state.in.us/dps/licensing/assignmentcode/welcome.html) to determine whether your licensure is appropriate for your teaching assignment.**

Science teachers who have earned 24 undergraduate or graduate credit hours in science are highly qualified in science.

Science teachers who have earned a master's degree in science are highly qualified in science.

Science teachers who have completed the NBPTS certification in the science subject that they teach are highly qualified in science.

Science teachers, *who have not otherwise met the definition of highly qualified*, use the HOUSSE rubric to globally assess all science in order to be highly qualified in science. They do not assess *individually* each science subject. If they earn 100 points on the HOUSSE rubric, they are highly qualified.